CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM
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21 MAY 1954

PBSUCCESS Headquarters

LINCOLN

Security Matters
Report on Incident - [ ] Tapes to SHERWOOD

REF: A) SHERWOOD 067(14 May 1954);
B) SHERWOOD 070(15 May 1954);
C) LINC 2686(14 May 1954);
D) DIR 00942(18 May 1954).

1. Upon receipt of reference message A) LINCOLN immediately ordered destruction of subject tapes at SHERWOOD(reference C). Report of destruction was made in reference B. In reference C it was indicated that an immediate investigation would be made by LINCOLN.

2. A most exhaustive and thorough investigation was conducted by the Security Officer of LINCOLN, without delay, in order to determine responsibility for subject incident. After checking all procedures and interrogating practically every member of this staff who was present at the time that the tapes were shipped, it became evident that an error had occurred in the transmittal of the proper tapes from one person to a second person. This error undoubtedly consisted of inadvertent placing of the proper tapes in proximity with the [ ] tapes on the same table and a second person scooping up all tapes present and sending same to SHERWOOD.

3. The investigation failed to place individual responsibility for the above incident owing to lack of precise memory of the persons concerned who were all busily engaged in numerous and manifold duties to such an extent that they were unable to recall every detail preceding the delivery of the tapes. For this reason and the obvious reason that no malicious intent was present, it is recommended that this incident be regarded as an administrative error and be considered as a closed matter with the assurance that corrective action has been taken by LINCOLN.

WILLIAM D. PIAYDON

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